

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Int'l. Application No. : PCT/JP2003/008378 Confirmation No. :  
First Named Inventor : Naoki SAWADA  
Filed : Concurrently Herewith  
TC/A.U. : To Be Assigned  
Examiner : To Be Assigned

Docket No. : 038917.55830US  
Customer No. : 23911

Title : Positioning Type Steering Column Device

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 AND 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding foreign Search Report citing such documents. The references cited on the Form-1449 are not being submitted herewith since they were submitted to the Patent Office by the International Bureau..

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing

date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

If necessary, the paper should be considered as a petition for consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)(2) and that the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)(3) should be charged to Deposit Account 05-1323, Docket No.: 038917.55830US.

January 14, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

  
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| FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce<br>Patent & Trademark Office<br><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT</b><br><i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i> | Attorney Docket No.<br>038917.55830US | Serial No. <b>10/521435</b><br>To Be Assigned |
|   | Applicant: Naoki SAWADA               |   |
|   | Filing Date<br>Concurrently Herewith  | Group<br>To Be Assigned                       |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |    |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|-----------------------|----|-----------------|------|------|-------|-----------|------------------------------|
| Examiner Initial      |    | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Sub-Class | Filing Date (if appropriate) |
|                       | AA |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AB |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AC |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AD |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AE |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AF |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AG |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AH |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AI |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |
|                       | AJ |                 |      |      |       |           |                              |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |    |                    |            |                               |       |               |             |    |
|--------------------------|----|--------------------|------------|-------------------------------|-------|---------------|-------------|----|
| Examiner<br>Initial      |    | Document<br>Number | Date       | Name                          | Class | Sub-<br>Class | TRANSLATION |    |
|                          |    |                    |            |                               |       |               | Yes         | No |
|                          | AK | JP 8-276852 A      | 10/22/1996 | NSK Ltd.                      |       |               |             |    |
|                          | AL | JP 10-7003 A       | 01/13/1998 | NSK Ltd.                      |       |               |             |    |
|                          | AM | JP 63-30605 Y2     | 08/16/1988 | Nissan Diesel Motor Co., Ltd. |       |               |             |    |
|                          | AN | JP 59-33043 A      | 02/22/1984 | Hisashi OKI                   |       |               |             |    |
|                          | AO | JP 5-8783 A        | 01/19/1993 | Bridgestone Cycle Co., Ltd.   |       |               |             |    |
|                          | AP |                    |            |                               |       |               |             |    |

| OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) |    |   |
|--|----|---|
|  | AQ | Microfilm of the specification and drawings annexed to the request of Japanese Utility Model Application No. 172194/1978 (Laid-Open No. 91371-1980) (Mitsubishi Motors Corp.), June 24, 1980. |
|  | AR |   |
|  | AS |   |

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|--|-----------------|
| EXAMINER   | DATE CONSIDERED |
| EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication. |                 |